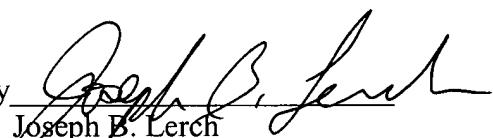


REMARKS

This is a response to a restriction requirement dated July 7, 2003 in the above-identified patent application. In that requirement, the examiner identified two inventions in the claims which were grouped into two claim groups, and he required election of one of the groups for prosecution in this patent application. In this response, the applicants have elected Claim Group II. Early examination on the merits is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By

  
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